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PAPO VAZQUEZ - PIRATES & TROUBADOURS
At The Point - Volumes I and II

Label: Cubop - Ubiquity Records - 1999/2000
Producer: Bob Sancho
Co-producer: Papo Vázquez

Reviewed by Danilo Navas



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Recorded Live at The Point, in The Bronx, New York, on November 11th and 12th, 1997.

These two volumes recording document a memorable session held by Papo Vázquez and his Pirate Troubadours band, back in 1997. They offer forceful performances by the Nuyorican (Philadelphia-born) trombonist and arranger, his supergroup and special guests: Arturo O'Farrill on piano; Willie Williams on tenor saxophone; Tony Batista on bass; Phoenix Rivera (son of the great saxophonist Mario Rivera) on drums; Richie Flores on congas; Milton Cardona on percussion; Horacio "El Negro" Hernández on drums; Andy Gonzalez on bass. Special guests: Michael Brecker on tenor sax; Dave Valentin on flute; Raymond Diaz on tambora...

Papo Vazquez creates Latin jazz "con gusto." His compositions show a mix of influences: his afro-Puerto Rican heritage -Bomba, Plena- nicely combined with bebop, afro-Cuban and other Latin American rhythms.

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